

October 25, 2012

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: FairPoint Cost Companies Petition for Price Cap Conversion and
For Limited Waiver Relief, WC Docket No. 12-71
Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, October 23, 2012, Michael Skrivan of FairPoint Communications, Inc. ("FairPoint") and I on behalf of the FairPoint Cost Companies met with Nick Degani of the Office of Commissioner Pai. On Wednesday, October 24, 2012, Mr. Skrivan and I met with Christine Kurth of the Office of Commissioner McDowell; Priscilla Argeris of the Office of Commissioner Rosenworcel; and Victoria Goldberg, Deena Shetler, Travis Litman, Doug Sloten, and Chris Kove of the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau Pricing Policy Division. The purpose of these meetings was to urge prompt action on the above-captioned petition for limited relief so the FairPoint Cost Companies' interstate special access services may be converted to price cap regulation and withdrawn from the NECA pool effective as of January 1, 2013.

FairPoint summarized the contents and context of the petition, noted that no opposition of any kind had been filed, and described the supplemental data it filed October 2 at the request of the Bureau. FairPoint explained the public interest benefits that would flow from granting the requested waivers and permitting FairPoint to make the necessary filings in December to complete this price cap conversion effective as of January 1, 2013. In particular, FairPoint noted the substantial reductions in its interstate special access rates that could be expected, as well as the consumer dividend proposed in the Petition. FairPoint also highlighted the importance of timely action on the Petition in order to avoid unnecessary and burdensome cost studies. FairPoint does not believe any additional information is needed for the Petition to be granted in accordance with FCC precedent.

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The substance of FairPoint's remarks are set forth in the Petition and in FairPoint's *ex parte* filings in the above-captioned docket. The enclosed materials were distributed in the meetings with the commissioners' legal advisors.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to me.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Karen Brinkmann
Counsel to FairPoint

Enclosure

cc: Priscilla Argeris
Nicholas Degani
Christine Kurth
Victoria Goldberg
Deena Shetler
Douglas Slotten
Travis Litman
Christopher Kove